



The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
February 2022 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 32, Issue 2



The

# GARzette

February 2022 GARS Meeting: Digital Modes for Amateur Radio – Bob Hensey K4VBM



## The Georgia QSO Party



GARS Meeting – Tuesday February 8, 2022 at 7:00 PM

## President's Message

### From the President...

Happy 'Ground Hog Day' Month! Beauregard 'Beau' Lee, our beloved Georgia weather prognosticator, gave us promise of an early Spring. So, get ready for those checklist items such as grass cutting, car washing, pressure washing the deck, etc.... Or, better still, maybe we could get another antenna up in the air, buy another rig to test our radio skills, go activate a park (POTA), go Geocaching, or activate a summit (SOTA).

There will a number of GARS members heading South to Florida after our meeting on the 8th to take care of some of the later described above. They, myself included, will be heading South to attend the Orlando Amateur Radio Club (OARC) 2022 ARRL National Convention, also known famously as 'HamCation', where it will most likely be nice and warm, with things to learn and things to buy, and things to bring home. You know, like fresh oranges, salt water taffy, or t-shirts. HIHI

Winter Field Day has come and gone and we must wait to see how the club did overall when participants' logs have been tallied and posted.

Hopefully, GARS will have a great showing. And guessing from some of the scores I saw, I say we will. In case you have never seen our GARS Score Board, here is a partial screen shot of it. For purposes of friendly intraclub competition and for those who have configured their N3FJP logger to connect, you can track individual efforts in real time. And with access via simple URL, anyone can view. Thanks to David (KA4KKF) for setting this system up for us.

Our annual fund raiser, the Dog Show, will be coming up at the end of March. Please seek out the signup sheet on [gars.org](http://gars.org) to sign up and help



us out. The jobs are easy, we get to use our equipment, we get to hang around a great group of members, and we might even spy a future championship dog!

The GARS "Free Items" Table: At most meetings held in the EAA Hanger, we have a table designated for "free stuff" offered to those who don't want or need them. After all, "One Ham's discards

are another Ham's **FUTURE PROJECT**!" If you are thinking about getting rid of something you no longer use or need, then consider bringing it to a GARS General Meeting and see if it can find a new home. GARS has also accumulated some items over the last few years, mostly a number of donated small items. We could try to liquidate many of them; but for the work involved and the low dollars they would bring, this effort would be better utilized by just giving the items away to GARS Members. These items include spools of hobby wire, incomplete coaxial jumpers, small speakers, etc.

So, we'll bring some items to the General meeting each month. Items will be of various categories and offered as "first come, first served." For February, one of the items we'll bring - well, let's just say, you 'mic' get 'hung up' on them.

Finally, we are always looking for interesting programs for our General or Workshop meetings. If you have an idea for a topic and can suggest a presenter, then we'd love to hear from you. Ideas and suggestions can be sent to our Program Manager at [programmanager@gars.org](mailto:programmanager@gars.org).

73,

*Joe Biddle, AD4PZ*

**Club President**

Gwinnett ARS Total Score = 9,402					
Current status: 01/30/22 20:19 UTC					
Total uploader is currently off line. Please click the call signs					
Call	Score	QSOs	20 Min	60 Min	Frequency
W4KLY	3,504	438	0	0	14.04686
KX4HA	2,280	125	0	0	
N4DDM	1,278	426	0	0	14.15200
N7GRB	1,127	88	0	0	
KD4YDD	316	79	0	0	
KA4KKF	252	42	0	0	14.07101
N4TRB	234	78	0	0	
N0DIM	228	57	0	0	

## GARS Meetings & Workshops

### GARS Meetings and Workshops

GARS Meetings and Workshops are held in-person at the EAA 690 Hangar. Zoom simulcast of Meeting & Workshop information will be listed on <http://www.gars.org>.

**Meetings and Workshops are OPEN to all, feel free to share your invite with others.**

Zoom login info will be posted to <http://www.gars.org> prior to the meeting.

#### When events are available on Zoom

- Workshops and Meetings will be **recorded**. By participating you consent to being **recorded**.
- Please change your display name to Your **FirstName Call Sign**, e.g. **Hiram W1AW**
- [How to change Your Display Name in Zoom](#)
- Please stay muted until ready to speak. Your space bar works like a PTT for un-muting
- To be fair to everyone, there will be a three minute limit for each person during Q & A
- You may ask questions in chat; **please stay on topic while using chat**.

#### GARS Meetings Schedule (second Tuesday @ 7:00 PM):

- February 8, 2022 – Digital Modes for Amateur Radio – Bob Hensey K4VBM
- March 8, 2022 – TBD
- April 19, 2022 – What is DMR – Bob Hoffmann K4CQO

#### Workshop Schedule (third Tuesday @ 7:00 PM):

- February 15, 2022 – Digital Modes for Amateur Radio – Bob Hensey K4VBM – a Hands-On Workshop
- March 15, 2022 – Re-capping and tube testing to bring radios back to life – Don Woodward KD4APP
- April 19, 2022 – DMR Programming – Bob Hoffmann K4CQO – a Hands-On Workshop

#### GARS Meeting – February 8, 2022



##### Digital Modes for Amateur Radio

**Bob Hensey K4VBM**

#### GARS Workshop – February 15, 2022



##### Digital Modes for Amateur Radio

**Bob Hensey K4VBM**

Bob is going to give an in-depth introduction to digital modes. These weak signal modes allow modest stations to make worldwide contacts. Think of this as your Digital Appetizer because there is just too much to properly cover in the time allowed at one meeting. So Bob is going to split the presentation in two with a hands-on application of his talk the following week at our GARS Workshop. Bob and GARS Elmers will be on-site to help configure software and hardware to get on the air.

Here is an outline of Bob's presentation:

- Some background stuff
- Digital Modes set-up Tips
- Good Operating Practices
- Tricks when using Digital Modes
- My favorite Digital Modes
- Remote Digital Operation overview

This will be the Hands-On part of Bob's Digital Modes for Amateur Radio presentation given at the GARS meeting last week. Bob and GARS Elmers will be on-hand to walk you through the steps to configure software and hardware to get you on the air. The plan is to have a few setups (VHF/UHF and HF) for folks to configure and test by transmitting either into dummy loads or an antenna in the parking lot for live QSOs. If you have a VHF/UHF or HF Jump Kit please bring it.



The

GARzette

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## GARS Communication

### 2 Meter Repeaters

147.075(+) MHz Tone 82.5  
147.255(+) MHz Tone 107.2

### 1.25 Meter Repeater

224.580(-) MHz Tone 100.0,  
1.6 MHz Offset

### 70 Cm Repeaters

444.525(+) MHz Tone 82.5  
442.100(+) MHz Tone 100  
442.325(+) MHz Tone 100

### 6 Meter Repeater

53.110 (-1 MHz) No Tone  
(Offline for Maintenance)

### Other Resources:

#### APRS

144.390 -- 1200 Baud  
W4GR

#### D-STAR

WD4STR  
145.060 + (1.4 MHz)  
440.550 + (5 MHz)

**Don't forget  
to support our  
advertisers at the  
back of the  
GARzette.**

Snail Mail Address:

GARS  
P.O. Box 492531  
Lawrenceville, GA 30049

## Notable Web Links

Ham Radio Glossary: <https://noji.com/hamradio/glossary.php> a very comprehensive listing provided by Noji Ratzlaff KNØJL. On his site there is also a lot of information about getting started in ham radio.

## Need Help – Let GARS Elmers answer your questions

Send an email to [elmers@gars.org](mailto:elmers@gars.org) with the subject listing the area (like Antennas, Repeaters, Digital, DMR etc.) of your query to get to GARS Elmer volunteers.

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the Amateur Radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by e-mail to [editor@gars.org](mailto:editor@gars.org). Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via e-mail to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the Amateur Radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other Amateur Radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and The *GARzette*.

The *GARzette* is published each month with the assistance of Karen KI4HPP and Kyle W4KDA who print copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the newsletter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 28th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

Newsletter Email: [editor@gars.org](mailto:editor@gars.org) Editor: Bob Hoffmann, K4CQO Assistant Editor: Bill Eggers, WB2RIS



## GARS HELP WANTED

Speakers Needed for GARS Workshop Presentations, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month – Email [workshop@gars.org](mailto:workshop@gars.org) to volunteer. [PS— Articles to publish in the *GARzette*, either written by GARS members or published elsewhere, are always welcome. —Ed.]



## GARS Happenings

### 20 Years ago in the February 2002 GARzette:

- The 2002 TechFest was to be held in March, 2002 at the Central Baptist Church
- Bill, KG4FXG taught a Ham Radio class at the Richards Middle School along with a demonstration
- There was a tribute to the GARS VEs for all of the good work that they do to expand ham radio
- David Adcock, KA4KKF provided the "Ham Operator's Credo"

You can always browse the GARzette archive at <http://www.gars.org/newsletters> and go directly to the 2002 GARzette by clicking on the image. 73, Bob, K4CQO, GARzette Editor



### Health and Wellbeing – Sandy Jackson, KJ4DRO

Look for this resource on [gars.org](http://www.gars.org) and use it as a means to convey information about a GARS family member or Silent Key notification.

## Net Managers Corner

### Monday Night 2 Meter "Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net"

#### GARS NEEDS MEMBERS TO SERVE AS NET CONTROL STATIONS!

GARS is a great Amateur Radio service club with the membership and awards to prove it. Our club is very busy and active, and we use the Monday night net to get timely information out to our members. Weekly participation is needed to make our net function well. There is only a small group of very dedicated people who make the net happen each week, and we need more members to volunteer to serve as Net Control Stations (NCS) on a rotating basis.

Out of almost 300 members, there are only seven operators who serve as the NCS for the GARS net every Monday night. In no particular order, they are:

Don – KW4AL	Ray – N4GYN	Bill – WG9NUW	David – KA4KKF
Glen – W3WWT	Russell – AB4QQ	Chuck – KK4TKJ	Charlie – WS4TOT

As GARS Net Manager (Chuck KK4TKJ), I would like to have more volunteers to fill NCS positions. I do plan and post the schedule months in advance. Any conditions will be accommodated that you as a rotating NCS need to place on the scheduling of your duties. If your plans change, I can make adjustments for the schedule to work, and I will make those changes happen as soon as I am notified of a problem. As Net Manager, I also send out reminders each week to let the NCS scheduled know he or she is NCS for the next Monday night net. In short, serving as a rotating NCS is a small duty but a great contribution to the club. The "Want, Swap, Sell Information Net" begins promptly at 19:30 every Monday night and runs about 30 minutes. As a scheduled NCS, you will request the assistance of a volunteer alternate NCS each time you have Net Control. Your simple duties will be to tune in to the GARS repeater, read the script, take a few notes and forward the information to me for record keeping.

Please lend a hand and contact me (Chuck) at [KK4TKJ@arrl.net](mailto:KK4TKJ@arrl.net). Sign up to help support the effort that makes GARS the great club that it is. 73 and see you on the Nets!

## GARS Members Taking ARRL Positions

Three Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society members receive ARRL Appointments.

Congratulations to **Mark Bell N7GRB** for his ARRL appointment to **Technical Specialist** for his work and devotion in training ARES members throughout Georgia in the use of Winlink as our primary Emergency Communications platform.

Specifically, Mark developed, published, and implemented the 3-tiered Winlink Proficiency Standards for Winlink training in the Georgia Section.

Additionally, Mark serves as a Gwinnett County ARES; AEC for Public Health and as a DEC for Training and Development.



Congratulations to **Larry Whited AB4NX** for his ARRL appointment to **Technical Coordinator** for his work and devotion in training fellow ARES members in Digital Communications throughout the Georgia Section.

Specifically, Larry is a recognized "Subject Matter Expert" for; Winlink, Sysop for Winlink, both VARA HF and VARA FM gateways, and in providing Winlink training to Georgia ARES members. Larry also assisted in the development of the Winlink Proficiency Standards.

Additionally, Larry holds COML, COMT, AuxC, and Level III MAT team member accreditations and is the AEC for Training for Gwinnett County ARES.



Congratulations are also in order for **Lee Stone KT4LS** for his promotion/appointment from Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator ASEC to Section Emergency Coordinator SEC.

For more information about the role of ARRL **Technical Specialist**, **Technical Coordinator** and **Section Emergency Coordinator** appointments please see the qualification and responsibilities listed on the ARRL website.



- Technical Specialist – <http://www.arrl.org/technical-specialist>
- Technical Coordinator – <http://www.arrl.org/technical-coordinator>
- Section Emergency Coordinator - <http://www.arrl.org/section-emergency-coordinator>

These ARRL appointments were made by our ARRL Section Manager, David Benoist AG4ZR, on February 1st 2022.



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## Upcoming GARS Technician HamCram

*Saturday, March 26, and Sunday, March 27*

*This is the entry-level license session*

For more information on the test session, [click here](#) to email the instructors.

### STUDY GUIDE:

We will be using the [hamradioschool.com](http://hamradioschool.com) material.

### CLASS:

8:00am to 4:00pm Saturday and 8:00am to 3:00pm Sunday

Thirty Minute Lunch Break with lunch brought in, both lunches and test for \$25.00

EAA hangar Briscoe Field Lawrenceville, GA near the intersection of highway 316 and Hi-Hope Road

### EXAM SESSION:

3:00pm to 5:00pm Sunday

This exam session is a closed session only available to those students who sign up for the class.

### REGISTRATION:

\*\*\* Pre-registration is Required \*\*\* Go to <http://www.gars.org/> to register for the class.

\*\*\* See registration in the sidebar \*\*\*

\*\*\* There is a no refund policy for no shows \*\*\*

## GARS Officer Nominations for 2022

In our February meeting, all members will have the opportunity to nominate someone for each of the elected positions and then we will vote on the candidates.

The current list proposed by the committee:

#### **President**

Joe Biddle AD4PZ

#### **Vice President**

Jamie Burns KX4HA

#### **Treasurer**

Pam Meridy AB4AKQ

#### **Secretary**

Bill Hawkins WR1TR

#### **Program Manager**

Kevin Scott K4GTR

You must be present at the meeting to vote.

## Heathkit SB Series Linear Amplifiers

### Vintage Amateur Radio The Desktop and Mobile Amplifiers

de Bill Shadid, W9MXQ



I Heathkit quite successfully developed and marketed the mostly successful SB-200 Series, the SB-220 Series, the SB-230, and the HA-14 Linear Amplifiers. To this day, ham shacks around the world include these amplifiers – especially the most successful SB-200 and SB-220 models. I wonder if the last versions of those amplifiers, the SB-201 and SB-221, were built today they would be successful products. I think they would be. Products like the Ameritron AL-811H and the Ameritron AL-82 show that much of the same circuitry is sellable today.

Not resting on their laurels at the time, however, Heathkit moved onward in their market with effective replacements.

In this installment we will talk about three more Heathkit linear amplifiers. Two are the last Heathkit HF linear amplifier products made in full production. One of those two was perhaps a pretender

and not a Heathkit at all. The third model had a production run of only ten units!

When the SB-221 was discontinued in 1983, Heathkit immediately introduced a nearly identically (in circuitry) HL-2200. Like the SB-221, the HL-2200 had a pair of Eimac 3-500z Triodes in its circuitry. It had a tuned input to satisfy 50-ohm impedance exciters and worked on the 80 through 15-meter bands as delivered<sup>4</sup>.



**Heathkit HL-2200 80-15 Meter Linear Amplifier**

(Heathkit Photo)

Interior views of the SB-221 and HL-2200 were nearly identical. And, why not? Heathkit had a worthy competitor in the SB-220 and SB-221. The only reason to repackage the amplifier was to meet styling changes – note more squared corners – and to change the colors to meet new design concepts by the Heathkit HF Transceivers of the day. The HL-2200 looked nice next to the new SS-9000<sup>1</sup> and HW-5400<sup>1</sup>, the company moved from green on green to more of a brown-tone and bronze color tone.



The HL-2200 had an input power of 2,000 watts PEP on SSB and an input power of 1,000 watts on CW. The radio had an output level of about 1,200 to 1,300 watts on SSB and about 600 watts on CW when set to the CW Mode. When set to SSB Mode, but running CW, with today's maximum legal power, this amplifier, like the SB-220 and SB-221, can put out over 1,200 watts on CW.

Alas, the HL-2200 was not a commercial success. As Chuck Penson, WA7ZZE, relates in his popular book on Heathkit amateur radio history<sup>2</sup>, hams seemed to feel it was a rip-off [presumably of their own SB-220/221].

For the sake of the idea that the SB-220/221 and the HL-2200 were nearly identical where it counts, look at these interior pictures:



**Heathkit SB-220 Linear Amplifier**



**Heathkit HL-2200 Linear Amplifier**

**Note what appear to be higher quality variable capacitors in the TUNE and LOAD positions of the later HL-2200 Linear Amplifier. (Left picture is of an SB-220.)**

(W9MXQ Photo)

(Heathkit Photo)

Acceptance by ham operators at the time notwithstanding, if looking for a Heathkit 2,000-watt amplifier from the era (early to mid-1980's) the later HL-2200 would be a good buy. It suffers from less popularity than the SB-220/221 but has the same very good design. That may translate into less money to purchase. While I like the green color scheme of the earlier linear amplifiers, some hams do not. So, the HL-2200 provides good performance with colors more closely matching modern radios. To each his/her own!

Heathkit's last entry in HF Linear Amplifiers was not really a Heathkit at all. At least not in terms of design and in very little in terms of appearance. The SB-1000 Linear Amplifier was a kit version of the by then very popular Ameritron AL-80A Linear Amplifier. Note the return, by Heathkit's marketing, to the long popular "SB" prefix in the model number – with the "1000" no doubt relating to the advertised power output of the single 3-500z Triode tube. The SB-1000 had a lot going for it. For the first time, Heathkit has a linear amplifier designed to not only work on 160 meters but also the new WARC bands at 17 and 12 meters. (12 and 10 meters were not standard with the SB-1000 but could easily be enabled by a licensed amateur operator with components already inside the radio. Instructions were supplied to the user by Heathkit in return for sending in a copy of their amateur radio license.

The HL-2200 front panel added a switch marked AMPLIFIER OUT / IN. The 3-500z tubes in the SB-220/221 and the 572B tubes in the SB-200/201 were essentially "instant on" and required little warmup time. I imagine Heathkit felt the extra switch was unnecessary. I think it was a worthwhile addition –

especially with the 3-500z.

The SB-1000 was introduced by Heathkit in 1987, some three years after production of the HL-2200 had stopped. The SB-1000 had a good market life of six years and to this day is relatively common on the used market. With its parts in common with the still popular Ameritron AL-80, AL-80A, and AL-80B, there is little problem with getting replacement parts. MFJ Enterprises, the parent company of Ameritron, openly sells every part of every product it makes. Here is a picture of the Heathkit SB-1000 next to the Ameritron AL-80A:



**Ameritron AL-80A Linear Amplifier**

(Ameritron Photo)



**Heathkit SB-1000 Linear Amplifier**

(Heathkit Photo)

So much for the Heathkit that really was not a Heathkit – except to say that while the fact is Heathkit did not design this radio they did design the concept of making this product a kit. They supplied their time proven assembly, alignment, and troubleshooting to the successful kit. So, many of the traits of a Heathkit were present. I prefer the Heathkit version of this amplifier as to its appearance. But that is just one man's opinion!

One more linear amplifier needs to be in this sequence. It came about late in the production of the SB-220 (not the SB-221) that was outlined in last month's installment. Let's look at the Heathkit SB-240 – vintage about 1975:



**Heathkit SB-240 HF Linear Amplifier**

**Brown/Beige/Black Prototype**



**Heathkit SB-240 HF Linear Amplifier**

**Green/Beige/Black Prototype**

**Different Color Schemes were Considered – at the time no radios used what was to become the Brown/Beige/Black colors. Apparently change was in the air!**

(KC8IV Photo)

(Heathkit Photo<sup>3</sup>)

The SB-240 has a footprint essentially the same as the SB-220. Heathkit, like they later did with the HL-2200, essentially repackaged the SB-220 with a different look. The green base-color and design apparently was design to match the SB-104/SB-104A<sup>1</sup> Transceiver of the time. The green color of the SB-220 matched the SB-104 series but details of style were different, as you can see. All RF specifications of the SB-240 matched those of the SB-220 – including the presence of 10 meters.

The SB-240, for reasons unknown to us today, did not go into production. It appears that ten of the units were built, according to KC8IV<sup>3</sup>, former Heathkit employee, in an advertisement to sell his SB-240 prototype many years ago. Three of these amplifiers of those original ten are thought to still exist.

I have one additional note on the SB-240. The green version shown is questionable. I have little data that it existed as a prototype and could be a unit cobbled from a SB-220 panel. But that could as well have been done by Heathkit in making the prototype. Suffice it to say this prototype existed and several still do in perhaps one or two colors.

Between this installment and the one last month, we have covered nine of the eleven HF linear amplifiers made by Heathkit. Next installment will cover two more. In fact, those two were the first two. They were made in a time of big radios – like the Heathkit Apache<sup>1</sup> and the Marauder<sup>1</sup> Transmitters and the Mohawk<sup>1</sup> Receiver. Do you remember those boatanchors? All have lived at one time or another at W9MXQ.

Special thanks go to Bob W9DYQ for his proofreading. I appreciate that you read my articles. Remember that I am open to questions and comments at my email address, [W9MXQ@TWC.com](mailto:W9MXQ@TWC.com).

**W9MXQ**

### Notes and References:

<sup>1</sup> Subject of a future article.

<sup>2</sup> Chuck Penson, WA7ZZE, "Heathkit, A Guide to Amateur Radio Products" Electric Radio Press, © 1995.

<sup>3</sup> It is difficult to determine the ownership of this photo. It may well be tied to KC8IV or Heathkit™. At the time the SB-240 was being contemplated, Heathkit was still using the Heathkit Green color scheme.

<sup>4</sup> Like the SB-201 and SB-221, Heathkit provided a 10-meter add-on kit. Also like its predecessors, buyers of the 10-meter add-on kit for the HL-2200 had to provide proof of their amateur radio license. Unlike some of the other manufacturers, there were parts that needed to be added – not just activated in the existing product – in order to enable 10-meters. These parts are extremely difficult to duplicate today. So, if you purchase an SB-201, SB-221, or HL-2200 and need 10-meters, be sure that it has already been added.





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## GARS Membership

### New Members List in January

Daniel Riegel (KO4USQ)

**New Members: 1**

**Total Members as of  
January 31, 2022  
362**

Join GARS members for our weekly breakfast  
gathering at  
7:30 AM most Saturdays  
Now at  
Cracker Barrel Restaurant  
75 Celebration Dr.  
Suwanee, GA 30024

### Birthdays in February

Marvin Atherton (KG4FHB)  
Lauren Atkin  
Don Bagby (KK4NJM)  
Shari Branson  
Michael Curtis (KK4WWB)  
Juan Manuel Dominguez (N5JMD)  
Eddie Foust (WD4JEM)  
Bob Hensey (K4VBM)  
Sandy Jackson (KJ4DRO)  
Suzy Jones (KK4MWC)  
Eva LaBerge (N4OCO)  
Bruce Lindsey (K0GNB)  
Edward Lodden (KX4KL)  
Steve Marlowe (KN4VCQ)  
David May (KK4SWN)  
Philip McCleary (N4LNE)  
Carlton McPherson (WA4ZUW)  
Ricardo Medina (W4RMZ)  
Aaron Morris (KG4ALB)  
Robby Nelson (KK0BSA)  
Steven Richardson (N4STR)  
George Sensibar (W9RR)  
Lori Silva (KK4NFW)  
Ada Silva (KK4TGR)  
Donald Silva (NX1Q)  
Luann Smith  
Lee Stone (KT4LS)  
Richard Tooke (KB4DL)  
Emily Wagner (KN4GZJ)  
Sharon Willet (KM4TVU)

### GARS MEMBERSHIP

Your current GARS membership status is shown in the monthly newsletter e-mail towards the bottom of the message. To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership, please visit our website—<http://www.gars.org>. To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new e-mail address, new phone number, etc.), please e-mail the Membership Committee - [membership@gars.org](mailto:membership@gars.org). You can renew or update your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>. To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>. Membership Chair: Karen Albritton, KI4HPP Committee Members: Dave Bruse, W4DTR



## Repeater Status

6M	Currently down
147.075	Operational in Snellville
147.255	Operational in Snellville
224.580	Operational in Grayson
442.100	Operational at Goshen Springs
442.325	Operational in Buford
444.525	Operational in Snellville

Link remote receivers being added

## Donating to GARS

Your GARS donation can be used for a certain purpose by donating to one of these funds:

- GARS SK Memorial Fund for Education (to remember and honor Silent Keys);
- GARS Scholarship Fund (Administered by the ARRL for awarding scholarships);
- GARS General Fund (any club purpose).

GARS has joined these rewards programs (a portion of every purchase you make through these merchants may be donated to GARS):

- Amazon Smiles;
- Kroger Community Rewards program.

For more information on how to sign up for these rewards programs, or to donate to GARS, visit

<http://gars.org/gars/donations-to-the-club>

## GARS on Social Media



Discord Request:

<http://gars.org/discord>



Groups.io:

<http://gars.org/groups.io>



Visit GARS on Facebook:

<http://gars.org/facebook>



Follow GARS on Twitter:

<http://gars.org/twitter>



Join GARS on YouTube:

<http://gars.org/youtube>

## Officers



Joe Biddle, President AD4PZ



Jamie Burns, Vice President KX4HA



Bill Hawkins, Secretary WR1TR



Pam Meridy, Treasurer WB1AKQ



Kevin Scott, Program Manager K4GTR

## Managers and Committee Chairs



Karen Albritton, Membership Chair KI4HPP



Dave Bruse, VE Team Leader W4DTR



David Adcock, Webmaster and Field Day Chair KA4KKF



Ralph Pickwick, Apparel Manager and Education Chair KJ4CNC



Glen Wendt, TechFest Chair W3WWT



Bob Hoffmann, GARzette Editor K4CQO



Eddie Foust, Repeater Chair WD4JEM



Mike Weathers, WAS / DXCC QSL Card Checker and Historian ND4V



Chuck McCord, Net Manager KK4TKJ



Steve Back, Technical / RFI Advisor WB2OGY



Kyle Albritton, Multimedia Chair W4KDA



Don Stewart, Elmer Manager KW4AL



Sandy Jackson, Health and Wellbeing KJ4DRO

Open Winter Field Day Chair

Open Georgia QSO Chair

Open Workshop Leader

## Directors and Trustees



John Davis, WB4QDX



Rick Cobb, N4XYY



Mike Weathers, ND4V



Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN W4GR Trustee



The

## GARS Meeting Minutes

### Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society – GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

1/11/2022

In person and online meeting.

**President Joe Biddle (AD4PZ) opened the meeting at 7:00pm and closed the meeting at approximately 8:30pm**

**Participants:** 26 in person – 36 reported online, but some were also in the live meeting.

**Treasurer's Report: Joe (AD4PZ)**

**New hams and visitors: Joe (AD4PZ)**

New hams and members introduced

**Membership: Joe (AD4PZ)**

Joe reported 361 members.

**Education and GARS wear: Ralph (KJ4CNC)**

McConnel Middle School opens next week.  
Tech Ham Cram will be the last weekend of March.

**VE Team: Dave (W4DTR)**

Dave reported that all 5 that tested this month passed.

**Winter Field Day: David (KA4KKF)**

WFD will be done individually this year.  
Please check the GARS web site for details on reporting...

**Programs: Kevin (K4GTR)**

December – Christmas/holiday party  
January – LDG electronics on antenna tuners  
Kevin is still looking for a February presenter.

**Workshop: Dallas (N4DDN)**

January – Refurbishing a radio and testing tubes.

#### **Other Business:**

Steve Garrison (N4TTY) of the Stone Mountain club, thanks GARS for the assistance with the HamFest and presented the club with a check.

Joe (AD4PZ) – Officer elections will be in February. Nominations will be accepted through the start of the February meeting. Nominations can be emailed or given to Earl.

**Program:** The presentation on antenna tuners was to be presented by Dwayne (WD8OGY), but due to some connection issues he was unable to present. Kevin (K4GTR) presented in his place and did an excellent job.

There were some audio issues initially with the Zoom connection. Those were corrected before the presentation.

Minutes by Bill Hawkins (WR1TR) Club Secretary.

## Workshop Minutes - January 18, 2022

**Number in Attendance:** 12

**Workshop Topic:** GARS Winter Field Day - Logging Software Configuration

**Presenter:** David Adcock KA4KKF

**Brief Summary:** David went over how to download, install, and configuration of N3FJP Winter Field Day contest logging software as it easily interfaces to a web app to display our combined score of QSOs. This combined score promotes a healthy level of camaraderie and competition between GARS members.

Submitted by: Dallas N4DDM



The

## Events – GARS and others

### ARRL CONTESTING INFO

From ARRL Contest Calendar

&gt; For more information click the links &lt;

#### February 2022

14-18 [School Club Roundup](#)19-20 [International DX – CW](#)

#### March 2022

5-6 [DX Contest – SSB](#)

#### April 2022

10 [Rookie Roundup – Phone](#)

#### May 2022

No planned contests

#### June 2022

11-13 [June VHF](#)18 [Kid's Day](#)25-26 [Field Day](#)

#### July 2022

9-10 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

#### August 2022

6-7 [222 MHz and Up Distance Contest](#)21-22 [10 GHz & Up – Round 1](#)21 [Rookie Roundup – RTTY](#)

#### September 2022

10-12 [September VHF](#)17-18 [EME - 2.3 GHz & Up – Round 2](#)17-18 [10 GHz & Up – Wknd 1](#)

#### October 2022

17-21 [School Club Roundup](#)TBD [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz – Wknd 2](#)

#### November 2022

5-7 [Nov. Sweepstakes - CW](#)19-21 [Nov. Sweepstakes - Phone](#)12-13 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)

#### December 2022

2-4 [160 Meter](#)10-11 [10 Meter](#)18 [Rookie Roundup-CW](#)

#### January 2023

1 [Straight Key Night](#)7 [Kid's Day](#)7-8 [RTTY Roundup](#)21-23 [January VHF Contest](#)

For more information:

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

### HAMFEST CALENDAR

[Please confirm the status of a Hamfest before making plans to attend]

**02/10/2022 - 02/13/2022 - Orlando HamCation, 2022 ARRL National Convention****Location:** Orlando, FL**Type:** ARRL Convention**Sponsor:** Orlando Amateur Radio Club**Website:** <https://www.hamcation.com>**02/19/2022 - Highlands County Amateur Radio Club Annual Hamfest****Location:** Sebring, FL**Type:** ARRL Hamfest**Sponsor:** Highlands County Amateur Radio Club**Website:** <http://highlandsamateurradio.com>**02/25/2022 - 02/26/2022 - 8th Annual TECHCON****Location:** Winter Haven, FL**Type:** ARRL Convention**Sponsor:** ARRL West Central Florida Section**Website:** <http://arrlwcfc.org/wcf-special-events/wcftechconference/>**02/26/2022 - Dalton Hamfest****Location:** Dalton, GA**Type:** ARRL Hamfest**Sponsor:** Dalton Amateur Radio Club**Website:** <https://fb.me/e/RvTKhD5g>**02/26/2022 - Hernando County Amateur Radio Association Hamfest****Location:** Brooksville, FL**Type:** ARRL Hamfest**Sponsor:** The Hernando County Amateur Radio Association**Website:** <http://www.hcara.org>**03/05/2022 - Charlotte County Hamfest****Location:** Punta Gorda, FL**Type:** ARRL Hamfest**Sponsor:** Peace River Radio Assoc.**Website:** <http://PRRA.club>**03/18/2022 - 03/19/2022 The 52nd ANNUAL PARC Hamfest****Location:** Fort Walton Beach, FL**Type:** ARRL Hamfest**Sponsor:** W4ZBB.Org welcomes you back to the panhandle for the 52nd Annual Show!**Website:** <http://w4zbb.org/w4zbborg/index.php?page=Hamfest>**03/19/2022 - 47th Annual Martin County HamFest, ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention****Location:** Stuart, FL**Type:** ARRL Convention**Sponsor:** Martin County Amateur Radio Association (MCARA)**Website:** <http://stuarthamfest.com>For more information: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar>

When searching by division, remember some states adjacent to GA are in different divisions:

Southeastern: GA, AL, FL Delta: TN Roanoke: NC, SC



The

GARS Events Calendar for 2022		GARS Recurring Calendar
<a href="#">TechFest</a> Winter Field Day Dog Show Fundraiser <a href="#">Georgia QSO Party</a> North metro area Fox Hunt Spring Technician HamCram <a href="#">Memorial Day Parade</a> <a href="#">ARC/KARC Hamfest</a> <a href="#">Field Day</a> Summer General HamCram Fall Technician HamCram <a href="#">JOTA</a> <a href="#">Maker Faire</a> <a href="#">Stone Mt. Hamfest</a> Holiday Party		Cancelled for 2022 Jan 29-30 2022 March 30-April 3 2022 April 9-10 2022 April 2022 March 2022 May 31 2022 June 4 2022 June 26-27 2022 July 2022 October 2022 October 16-17 2022 TBD November 6-7 2022 December 14 2022
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm (except December): Monthly Club Meeting (in-person location 690 Airport Rd, Lawrenceville, GA 30046)</li> <li>3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm (except December): Monthly Workshop (in-person location 690 Airport Rd, Lawrenceville, GA 30046)</li> <li>2nd Sunday of the Month at 2 pm  <a href="#">GARS Ham Exam Session</a>            690 Airport Rd            Lawrenceville, GA 30046</li> <li>Every Monday at 7:30 pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater</li> <li>Every Monday at 8:30 pm: ARES Training on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater</li> <li>Most Saturdays at 7:30 am :            GARS Weekly Breakfast            Cracker Barrel Restaurant            75 Celebration Dr., Suwanee, GA 30024</li> </ul>
GARS CALENDAR FOR February 2022		

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 7:00 PM GARS Exec Meeting (Online)	2	3	4	5 Breakfast at Cracker Barrel in Suwanee 7:30 AM
6	7 7:30 – 8:00 PM GARS 2M Net	8 7:00 PM GARS Meeting EAA 690 Hangar	9	10	11	12 Breakfast at Cracker Barrel in Suwanee 7:30 AM
13 GARS VE Exam Session EAA 690 Hangar 2:00 PM	14 7:30 – 8:00 PM GARS 2M Net	15 7:00 PM GARS Workshop EAA 690 Hangar	16	17	18	19 Breakfast at Cracker Barrel in Suwanee 7:30 AM
20	21 7:30 – 8:00 PM GARS 2M Net	22	23	24	25	26 Breakfast at Cracker Barrel in Suwanee 7:30 AM
27	28 7:30 – 8:00 PM GARS 2M Net					



## Local Ham Radio Exams & Meetings

### Local Ham Radio Exams

[Please check with each session contact for current status.—Ed.]

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in, unless otherwise noted. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at <http://www.arrl-ga.org>

#### First Sunday, ODD Months

2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov)

VEC: WCARS

Braselton Public Utility Building

4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA

Contact: Nat Christman K4VQ, 678-371-7103

[christmans30680@gmail.com](mailto:christmans30680@gmail.com)

#### First Sunday, EVEN Months

2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)

VEC: WCARS

Hall County EOC

470 Crescent Dr. Gainesville, Ga.

Contact: Perry Roper, KO4RD

(770) 536-3056

#### Second Saturday

8:30 – 10:30 AM

Slopes BBQ

34 Crossville Road, Roswell, GA 30075

Contact: Ian Kahn, NV4C

E-mail: [nv4c.ian@gmail.com](mailto:nv4c.ian@gmail.com)

#### Third Saturday, ODD Months

VEC: ARRL

9:30 am (Walk-ins welcome)

Stone Mountain Masonic Lodge

840 VFW Drive

Stone Mountain, GA 30083

Contact: Frank Haynes, KV4SP

Email: [fhaynes@vatmom.net](mailto:fhaynes@vatmom.net)

(678) 467-3712

#### First Sunday, EVEN Months

VEC: WCARS and W5YI

2 pm @ Barrow Co. Emerg. Serv. Bldg

66 McElroy Street

Winder, GA 30680

Contact: Mike Wolcott, W4WYI

(404) 281-6581

E-mail: [W4WYI@ARRL.net](mailto:W4WYI@ARRL.net)

#### Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC

7 pm @ United Way Service Center

6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville

Contact: Jessie Clower, KB4WFK

(770) 942-6466

#### Fourth Sunday

2:30 pm Georgia Tech

VanLeer Elec. Building

Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr.

For more information go to [www.w4aql.com](http://www.w4aql.com) and click on "Test Sessions"

#### On the 2nd Sunday

Laurel VEC

REE Amateur Radio license testing.

12:00noon

Pre-registration is preferred, but walk-ins will be accepted up to 12:30pm

Angel Flight Room at Peachtree-Dekalb Airport

2000 Airport Rd STE 227

Atlanta, GA 30341

<https://www.atlantave.team>

### GARS Ham Radio Exams

#### Second Sunday of the month

Doors open at 1:45pm, exams start promptly by 2:00pm

GARS VE-Team

VEC: W5YI-VEC

EAA 690 Hangar

690 Airport Rd

Lawrenceville, GA 30046

GARS VE Team Leaders

E-mail: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)

#### January 2022 Results

We had a successful exam session on Sunday, January 9. Five applicants tested. Two applicants earned their Technician license, two upgraded to General, and one upgraded to Amateur Extra.

Thanks to all the VE's who made the session possible:

- Dave Bruse, W4DTR (CVE)
- Earl Whatley, AF4FG
- Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN
- Pam Meridy, WB1AQK
- Steve Back, WB2OGY
- Don Bagby, KK4NJM (Co-CVE)
- Jamie Burns, KX4HA
- Alex Kowalchuk, AK4AM

73, Chuck, KK4TKJ (Co-CVE)

GARS VE Website: <http://gars.org/exams> has location information and testing requirements.

### Local Meetings

[Please check with each club for meeting schedule and method (online, etc.) - Ed.]

#### First Tuesday

Kennehoochee ARC

Fire Station #1, Training Room

112 Haynes Street, Marietta, GA

Meeting begins at 7:00pm

Talk In 146.880(-)

#### First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club

Georgia Red Cross HQ

1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta, GA

Meeting is at 7:30pm

Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC

Commerce Public Library

1344 South Broad Street, Commerce, GA

Meeting is at 6:30pm

Talk In - 147.225(+), PL 123.0

#### Second Monday

Georgia Tech ARC

Room W218

Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg.

Georgia Tech Campus

Meeting at 7:00pm

Sawnee Amateur Radio Association

Beaver Toyota

1875 Buford Highway, Cumming, GA

Meeting at 6:30

#### Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club

Annistown Road Baptist Church

Annistown Rd & Spain Rd

Stone Mountain, GA

Dinner at 6:00pm, Meeting at 7:30pm

Talk In - 146.760(-)

#### Second Saturday

North GA QRP Club

Board Room of The Shepherd Center

2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta, GA

at 10:00 AM

#### Third Tuesday

North Fulton Amateur Radio League

Alpharetta Recreation & Parks Dept.

Alpharetta Adult Activity Center

13450 Cogburn Road, Alpharetta, GA

meeting at 7:30pm

Talk In - 145.47(-)

For more information, go to:

<https://nfarl.org/>

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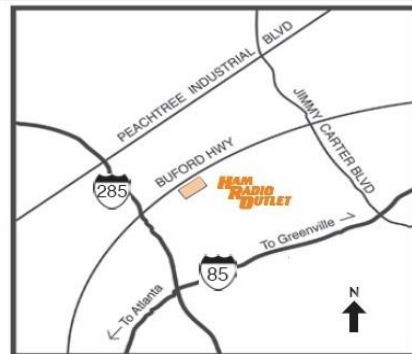
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# Finally

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